

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-10 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 DOTE-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CCMS, SENV, ENRG

SUBJ: CCMS: FALL PLENARY - POSSIBLE NEW PROJECTS

1. DRAFT PROPOSAL BY CANADA - STUDY ON FOOD AND HEALTH
(AC/274-D/54) WAS INTRODUCED FOR CONSIDERATION BY CCMS.

A. DR. MURRAY (CANADA) DESCRIBED THE PROBLEMS OF FOOD AND
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HEALTH FACING THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THE PROBLEMS RANGE FROM
STARVATION TO EXCESSIVE EATING, AND POOR NUTRITION IS WIDESPREAD.
MANY OF OUR MOST IMPORTANT HEALTH PROBLEMS HAVE A NUTRITION
COMPONENT, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD NUTRITION CAN HARDLY

BE OVEREMPHASIZED. GOVERNMENTS AND PRIVATE BUSINESS ENGAGE IN NUTRITIONAL CAMPAIGNS AND FOOD SUBSIDIES, SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS, AND ADVERTISING CAMPAIGNS ALL SEEK TO INFLUENCE OUR EATING HABITS. INDEED, THE AMOUNT OF RANDOM DATA AVAILABLE COULD VERY WELL DROWN THE PROJECT, AND AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE STUDY SHOULD BE DEVELOPMENT OF EVIDENCE THAT THIS NEW INITIATIVE IS EFFECTIVELY COORDINATING NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION, RATHER THAN CONTRIBUTING TO THE CHAOS. CANADA IS WILLING TO PILOT THE NEW STUDY, IF ESTABLISHED, AND AS A FIRST STEP, SUGGESTS INPUTS FROM CCMS MEMBERS WHICH WIL AID CANADA IN DRAWING UP STUDY GUIDELINES.

B. MR. TRAIN (USA) EXPRESSED STRONG US SUPPORT FOR THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA. HE DESCRIBED GOOD NUTRITION AS "PREVENTIVE MEDICINE" FOR THE QUALITY OF LIFE, WHICH WAS PREFERABLE TO SEEKING CURES AFTER THE FACT. MR. TRAIN ASKED DR. ROGER EGEBERG (USA) TO COMMENT, AS AN EXPERT IN THE FIELD, ON THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL.

DR. EGEBERG DESCRIBED THE PROBLEM AS ONE OF IGNORANCE, OF PEOPLE WHO CAN BUY WHAT THEY WANT BUT WHO DO NOT KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR THEM. HE COMMENTED THAT, A GENERATION AGO, THE AVERAGE MALE ADULT NEEDED 3500 CALORIES/DAY TO MAINTAIN HIS WEIGHT. TODAY, ONLY 2500 CALORIES ARE REQUIRED. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS CHANGE IN LIFESTYLE AND EXERCISE PATTERN HAS NOT BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY A CHANGE IN EATING HABITS. DR. EGEBERG FELT THAT THIS STUDY COULD BE OF ENORMOUS BENEFIT TO THE LDC'S, BY FREEING SOURCES OF PROTEIN AND OTHER NUTRIENTS NOW WASTEFULLY AND NEEDLESSLY CONSUMED IN THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. COORDINATING BASE INFORMATION IN THIS BROAD FIELD WOULD BE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION.

C. TURKEY (SEDAROGLU) VERY STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL AND RECOMMENDED ITS ADOPTION BY CCMS.

D. THE UK (FAIRCLOUGH) STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL, AND STATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE. THE UK HOPES TO HAVE INPUT INTO THE GUIDELINES DRAFTING AND HAS ALREADY DESIGNATED AN EXPERT AS LIAISON FOR THE STUDY. THE UK RECOMMENDED A WIDENING OF THE PROJECT'S TERMS OF REFERENCE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PROBLEM IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN UNCLASSIFIED

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TERMS OF THE WORLD LACK OF PROTEIN AND OTHER NUTRIENTS.

E. NORWAY (LYKKE) EXPRESSED THE DESIRE OF THE GOVERNMENT COUNCIL FOR NUTRITION TO SEE THIS STUDY DEVELOP, AND DECLARED NORWAY'S INTENT TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN ITS IMPLEMENTATION. NORWAY URGED THAT METHODS OF INFLUENCING DIETARY HABITS BE CONSIDERED AT AN EARLY STAGE IN HE PROJECT.

F. THE NETHERLANDS (VIGVENO) FOUND THE PROPOSAL AN INTERESTING ONE, BUT NOTED THAT IT MIGHT BE REGARDED CRITICALLY AS THE STUDY OF A RICH MAN'S PROBLEM. HE URGED THAT ELEMENTS OF THE STUDY BE DIRECTED TO COMPARABLE PROBLEMS IN THE LDC'S. THE NETHERLANDS ALSO FELT COMPLEEED TO ASK IF THE TOPIC COULD NOT BETTER BE STUDIED IN FAO OR WHO.

G. CANADA (MURRAY) STATED THAT FAO AND WHO NATURALLY COME TO

MIND WITH ANY HEALTH-RELATED PROJECT. HOWEVER, THE MAJORITY OF MEMBERS OF THOSE ORGANIZATIONS ARE COUNTRIES IN WHICH SHORTAGE OF FOOD IS THE MAJOR PREOCCUPATION. HELPING TO ALLEVIATE THIS BY DIVERTING RESOURCES TO THE LDCS COULD BE AN IMPORTANT SPIN-OFF OF THIS STUDY. CANADA ALSO COMMENTED THAT THE OECD'S PRINCIPAL APPROACH, WHICH WOULD BE TO FOCUS ON ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM, HAD NOT BEEN THOUGHT APPROPRIATE.

H. THE COMMITTEE ACCEPTED THE CANADIAN PROPOSAL, AND WILL REVIEW THE DETAILED GUIDELINES TO BE DRAWN UP BY CANADA, IN LIGHT OF COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM THE OTHER ALLIES.

2. FRANCE (MASSIN) PROPOSED CONSIDERATION OF A NEW STUDY OF ADVANCED TECHNICAL MONITORING DEVICES FOR IDENTIFYING OIL SPILLS ON THE HIGH SEAS AND ALONG COASTLINES. INFRARED RAYS ARE USUALLY USED NOW FOR DETECTION PURPOSES, BUT THEY ARE NOT SUITABLE UNDER CERTAIN CLIMATIC AND/OR METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS. RADAR MIGHT OFFER AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD, AND ANALYSIS EQUIPMENT COULD BE AIRBORNE OR LAND-BASED.

THE US (TRAIN) EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE FRENCH PROPOSAL AND A WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROJECT GUIDELINES. THE US (BARNUM) SUGGESTED THAT FRANCE CONSTITUTE AN EXPERT GROUP FROM INTERESTED ALLIED COUNTRIES, TO DRAFT A DETAILED PROPOSAL AND INDICATED US WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE. CANADA (ARMSTRONG) EXPRESSED SPECIFIC INTEREST IN DETECTION DEVICES AND ATMOSPHERIC FALLOUT, AND WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PILOT STUDY. ITALY (SALVO) IS VERY INTERESTED IN THE PROPOSAL AND WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROPOSED STUDY, WHEN FORMALLY ACCEPTED.

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ASYG OZDAS NOTED THAT THE FORMAL PROPOSAL, IF RECEIVED BY FEB. 15, WILL BE DISTRIBUTED FOR DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT PLENARY, AS WILL ALL OTHERS RECEIVED BY THAT DATE.

3. THE US (TRAIN) DESCRIBED AND CIRCULATED A PAPER ON US DEVELOPMENT OF FLUE GAS DESULPHURIZATION. HE DID NOT SUGGEST THIS AS A NEW PILOT STUDY AT THIS TIME, BUT INDICATED THAT U.S. WANTED TO GET REACTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS OF ALLIES REGARDING POSSIBLE CCMS INITIATIVE ON SUBJECT.

4. THE FRG (KUPFER) ANNOUNCED THAT IT INTENDED TO STUDY THE FLUOROCARBON/OZONE ISSUE RAISED BY US (TRAIN) IN ROUNDTABLE (SEE USNATO 5707 OVERVIEW AND SEPARATE AIRGRAM ON ROUNDTABLE). THE FRG FULLY AGREED WITH THE US COMMENTS MADE AT THE ROUNDTABLE, BUT HAD NOT COMMENTED AT THAT POINT BECAUSE IT FELT FLUOROCARBON/OZONE MORE APPROPRIATELY SHOULD BE INCLUDED UNDER THE POSSIBLE NEW PROJECTS HEADING. THERE IS A NEED FOR CLARIFICATION OF WHAT IS GOING ON IN THIS FIELD DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY, AND THE FRG BELIEVES A GROUP OF EXPERTS COULD BE CONSTITUTED TO PREPARE AN OUTLINE OF A POSSIBLE PILOT STUDY. THE FRG IS FULLY READY TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A GROUP AND POSSIBLE STUDY. THE US (TRAIN) EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT A CONSENSUS EXISTED

THAT THOSE WITH A PARTICULAR CONCERN FOR THE OZONE ISSUE KEEP IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER. THE US INTENDS TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH WMO, OECD, ETC., AND TO INVITE INTERESTED COUNTRIES TO A MEETING IN THE US FOLLOWING THE NOVEMBER OECD MEETING TO SEE HOW THE PROBLEM MIGHT BE APPROACHED.

5. THE NETHERLANDS (VIGEVENO) POSED THE SAME ESSENTIAL QUESTION TO THE FRENCH AS TO THE CANADIANS--WHY DIDN'T THE FRENCH CONSIDER PUTTING THE PROJECT IN ANOTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, IN THIS CASE IMCO? FRANCE (FESQUET) REPLIED THAT IMCO HAD BEEN CHECKED, AND FRENCH AUTHORITIES HAD FOUND THAT IMCO DID NOT HAVE ANYTHING COMPARABLE ON ITS PERMANENT AGENDA.

PORTUGAL (MENDES-VICTOR) DECLARED PORTUGUESE INTEREST IN THE FRENCH PILOT STUDY , AND THE UK (FAIRCLOUGH) ANNOUNCED ITS INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE US OZONE MEETING.STREATOR

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